

FREDDY WELSH SHOULD HAVE CALLED A PINCH HITTER IN HIS BOUT WITH BENNY LEONARD

WELSH'S TITLE CHEAPEST THAT EVER CHANGED HANDS IN CHAMPIONSHIP BATTLE; HE GOT BUT \$5000 FOR IT

Poor Management on Part of Pollok Caused Freddy to Turn Down \$40,000 Purse and Chance for \$50,000 Bout With Leonard

A NEW member was initiated into the Concrete League Monday night after pulling one of the most famous "boners" since the day Merkle failed to touch second base. Harry Pollok, of N'Yawk, manager of Freddy Welsh, qualified when he allowed his meat ticket to enter the ring with Benny Leonard and he punched full of holes for the price of a beef stew—compared to the purses champions receive nowadays. It was the cheapest title that ever changed hands, and the wise old birds who roost on Broadway are talking about it yet. Freddy received the munificent sum of \$5000 for losing a championship which cost him \$30,000 cash money. He bet six to one against himself and then pocketed his loss. It was a terrible piece of business, but it only proves that nothing is certain these days and the healthiest pitcher in the world is likely to be broken if it makes too frequent visits to the well-known well. But something must have been wrong in Monday night's program, for \$5000 is no more than cigarette money when bidding for the lightweight championship of the world.

To prove that Pollok made a sucker play, allow us to recite some ancient history. In the first place, Welsh was offered a match with Kilbane in Cleveland or Cedar Point, a fifteen round decision bout was to be held. Matt Hinkle was willing to stage the match and offered a purse of \$35,000. Kilbane said he would not take a cent and allow Freddy to pull down the entire bunch of cash. When Pollok and Welsh hesitated over that proposition, Kilbane and his manager, Jimmy Dunn, offered to stage the match themselves and give Welsh every cent that came through the gate. You see, they were certain that Freddy could not last fifteen rounds in a hard fight, and if he did he would be outpointed and outclassed so badly that he was bound to lose the referee's decision.

BUT there was nothing doing, despite the assurance of a gate which would exceed \$50,000. It didn't seem enough, and it was decided to stick to the ten-round game and pick up some more soft money. Welsh figured that he was good for another year, and at the end of that time he could retire with the title and convert it into cash through advertising.

Billy Gibson's Pair of Offers Also Were Turned Down Cold

LAST winter Billy Gibson tried hard to match Leonard and Welsh in a forty-round bout in Havana, Cuba. The purse was \$40,000 and Pollok was given the privilege to cut it any way he saw fit. But nothing came of it. Two weeks ago another offer was made. A twenty-round decision bout was to be pulled some place in Connecticut near New York. Gibson says he was willing to go in for nothing, and if Welsh didn't care to gamble he would offer him a flat guarantee of \$40,000. Pollok again was blind and the match fell through. Yet he sat in Welsh's corner Monday night and saw his man go down in defeat while an audience which paid \$12,100 looked on. It surely was a bargain, for Welsh had nothing to gain and everything to lose.

The lightweight championship is the most popular in the world and means a fortune for the holder. An active boy like Leonard, who has a good following and commands the respect of the public, can make \$50,000 a year with little difficulty. He can command his own price when he appears in bouts and the stage will pay big money to sign him up for a season. Then there are advertising schemes which will add to his bankroll, especially now that he is the idol of the fans. So it easily can be figured that the lightweight crown is worth a pile of money, and if one gets down to real facts it represents virtually \$1,000,000. Fifty thousand a year is 5 per cent on \$1,000,000, and it seems strange that an income like that should be sold for a paltry \$5000.

Fight critics have doped it out that Leonard allowed Welsh to beat him in that second match last summer to give him confidence for a third encounter. Perhaps that is true, but we cannot see it that way. It was fortunate, however, that Welsh won that second battle, for he had no fear of Monday night's scrap and was more confident that at any other time in years.

ANOTHER theory is that Johnny Kilbane trimmed Welsh just enough to make him easy pickings for Leonard. Johnny gave Freddy a terrible lacing and it might be that the former champion had not completely recovered. At any rate, he didn't look like the same boxer when he got into action. All of which makes us wonder if Kilbane and Leonard ever will get together. What a match that would make!

Athletics Look Like Champions and Win Two Games in One Day

JIMMY IRAMINGER walked hurriedly into the office at Shibe Park yesterday afternoon, advanced on Connie Mack and opened a verbal broadside as he backed the lengthy manager into a neutral corner.

"Connie," said Jimmy, "I don't want to be personal, but I MUST ask you two games in a single day?"

Mack scratched his head and a faraway look came into his eyes. His brow was wrinkled and he assumed an attitude of deep thought.

"Now, that's funny," he replied, "I never thought of that. Let me see, when did we win a double-header? It wasn't last year, nor was it the year before, and I am SURE it wasn't this year. I have a faint recollection of sitting through a double victory once upon a time, but I must look through the dusty old records to find the date and the year. I believe it was 'way back in 1914, but it almost had slipped my mind."

It was, indeed, a strange sight to see our much-abused Athletics grab that pair of games from Bill Donovan's expensive cast from the Big City. This does not mean that there was anything fluky about the matinee. Far be it from that, the Macklets won because they were the better team, and had it turned out any other way it would have been daylight robbery. The 1917 edition of the A's back from the western tour looks like a championship aggregation. The pitching was good, the batting was lusty and timely and when the time came to shove some runs over the plate they were shoved with much joy and abandon. They played such good baseball that the result never was in doubt, even when the enemy assumed the lead in the eighth inning of the second game.

STUFFY McINNIS had a bad day at the plate. All he could do was to get three singles and a sacrifice in the first combat and a pair of singles and a double out of four trips to the rubber in act No. 2. In addition to that, Jawn played a sensational game in the field and made some stops that brought the crowd to its feet. Stuffy is hitting into right field this year and this makes him one of the most dangerous batters in the league.

WILD BILL IS WILD FOR ANOTHER BIG LEAGUE OUTFIELDER

IT MUST be pretty tough for Lee Magee these days. The Federal League star, who was purchased for the small sum of \$25,500—the same amount that was paid for Marty O'Toole—is as much good to the club these days as Marty ever was to Pittsburgh. The high-priced athlete is occupying the bench and receives only \$9,000 a year for doing it. Len fell off in his hitting and general play this season and Bill Donovan decided that he could get along without him in the line-up. Elmer Miller was sent out to center, but he, too, fell into a slump and was asked to take a rest. Yesterday Slim Caldwell, the pitcher, played center field, and it must have been pretty tough on Magee to stand aside to make room for the substitute. Slim put his club in the lead in the eighth stanza of the second game when he busted the ball over the fifth panel of the right field fence, sending home Walters ahead of him. Caldwell also got a hit in the opening combat.

This shows that Wild William is up against it for guardians of the outer garden. The bolts on High's neck, Magee's hitting slump and Gilhooley's busted shoulder have put the club on the blink, and something must be done to bolster the weak spots. Ivory hunters are combing the brush for new talent and they work day and night.

DONOVAN'S pitchers are going good and it seems a shame to allow the twirling to go to waste. With a couple of good outfielders to draw upon, the Yankees would have a better chance to cop the pennant.

CAN'T GET AROUND FRIENDLY WAGER, SAYS NEW YORK JUDGE

A NEW YORK magistrate has decided that an informal memorandum agreement to wager on a horse race does not comprise a violation of the law of that State forbidding the wagering on horse races. A better turned over to another slip of paper at the Jamaica track reading: "\$400 to \$500, Sunrise for place, W. H. Ray." The transfer was made for the purpose of permitting an arrest for a test case as to whether the law was intended to cover the record of a bet "between friends." The arresting deputies admitted that they had seen no money change hands.

In discharging the arrested note holder Magistrate Koberdorfer said: "The slip of paper is no more evidence of illegal betting than would be a slip of paper bearing the name of a horse and a number of figures and signed with my initials."

CORBETT FIGURES PHILS HAVE AN OUTSIDE CHANCE

JAMES J. CORBETT, one time heavyweight champion, is out with the statement that the Giants are the class of the National League and that the Yankees stand to upset many pennant hopes. James J. might be writing from the standpoint of the New York element, but he has not neglected to put in a word for the Phils. Corbett figures that the Phils were off to a poor start, but that they have recovered their 1915 stride and that they are very apt to make things interesting for the pennant chasers.



HONORS AWARDED AT TRADES SCHOOL

Lewis Wins Gold Medal as Athlete and Student. Watch for Fredericks

QUAKERS GET LETTERS

Scholastic and athletic honors combined have been awarded the Philadelphia Trades School student-athletes by the faculty. William Lewis, the holder of the shot-put record, who will graduate in June, was awarded the gold medal for being the best athlete well up in his studies.

The gold watch for the highest honor in the school, the best student and athlete in the graduating class of February, was awarded to Fredericks, the 1916 baseball pitcher. While Lewis's award was next highest honors, there was little to choose between these two all-around athletes.

Trades School is now active in baseball and track. Coach Hamilton will enter a strong track squad in the meet with the other City High School athletes. Coach Charles Schiew will have his baseball players in two games this week. On Thursday Catholic High will be played at Catholic High's field, and on Friday the West Philadelphia High nine will be met in one of the most important league games of the season.

Athletes who have won fame for Penn Charter School on tennis courts, baseball and track, are T. Brown, Bill Fleming, Marshall Piersol and there were several others.

Penn Charter's junior tennis players were recognized for their title victories by the award of the junior "P. C." insignia. They were Captain Bert Ward, Tom Miller, Tom Miller, Inky Brown, Lowell Thomas, Albert Smith, Earle Bartlett and Allen Collins.

Captain Dave Smith, son of the Mayor, who was in the Cavalry and Defense Reserve, was also recognized by the award of a "P. C." as he started the season with the team and played in some of the games.

The baseball players to receive the award were Lester Sibley, Dave Smith, Fred Bartlett, Marshall Piersol, Bill Fleming, Arthur Fleming, Mitchel, Carey, Ward, Greenlee, Arthur Fleming, Harmon and Redmond.

In cricket, Alvin Reicher, Captain James McCann, Charles Ward, Tom Miller, Tom Miller, A. Fleming, R. Davis, Pilling, Peterson, Tattall Brown, R. Brown and Piersol were rewarded.

Timely hits by Reid and Hutchinson won the Freshman League game between the Germantown High and the Northeast High School first-year teams yesterday afternoon at Germantown's field. The Germantown nine winning by a score of 6 to 5 in a rally in the seventh inning.

THE CANADIANS' VIEWPOINT

"If the time comes," remarked a well-known Canadian sportsman, "when many of your baseball stars go to the front, then baseball will fall off badly. Or if the time comes when your newspapers begin to cut down heavily in sporting publicity, it will fall off even more; but as long as baseball gets a fair share of publicity and as long as there is fair material left, then baseball will move along. But I believe you will find that football interest will be almost entirely destroyed. Most of your leading football men will be taking military service. You will find they have very little interest left in the game. I doubt very much if those left can be made to even practice, much less attempt to play out any football schedule."

Which is true enough. Baseball and football are widely different in their appeals. Baseball has come to be in the main a professional game, and there is a big chance that professional football will have quite a call this fall. It will very likely be the leading fall sport. After world series echoes have faded out, this, at least, looks to be the future situation of sport in the United States after the war if the United States is judged at all from the Canadian standpoint. This, at least, looks to be the last week in order to find out from leading Canadian sportsmen exactly how the situation stood.

Their opinion is that the States will maintain their professional sport throughout the war; that such will serve a useful purpose, but that nearly all amateur competitive sports will fade out until the shadow of the war has drifted away.

SHIBE PARK NON-AD RULE BROKEN FOR NAVY'S CALL

"Enlist Now; Your Country Needs You," First Sign at Local Ball Yard

Despite the original ruling of the board of directors of the American Ball Club of Philadelphia that they would have no advertising in the enclosure, Connie Mack has patriotically thrown all reservations aside and has now placed the United States Navy call for the war in the stadium.

BASEBALL BOOMS IN CANADA, BUT FOOTBALL HAS BEEN KILLED FOR TIME BEING BY CONFLICT ABROAD

As in Dominion, Professional Sports Will Doubtless Continue in This Country, With Big Grid-iron Revival When Warfare Is Ended

By GRANTLAND RICE

As in Dominion, professional sports will doubtless continue in this country, with big grid-iron revival when warfare is ended. Canada has lost \$5,000 in killed and wounded. This would be the same as if the United States had lost 1,000,000 or more in killed or wounded. You can figure from these detailed statistics just what Canada has been through in less than three years of war. Yet the queer feature is that while certain sports have suffered badly others have nearly held their own, and baseball has even done a trifle better than usual. The only explanation for baseball's success given out in Montreal is that among those who remained there was an unusual craving for what might be called recreative diversion. Anything which might attract attention from the war and the country had a brief period was received with welcome.

Football Off

Yet the war, which failed to hurt baseball, has virtually ended football. And for this reason: Virtually all the good football players in Canada have gone to the front. Many of the best have been killed or wounded. There is very little talent left for any football that might be of use for exhibition purposes. There is no thrill to come from looking at a game played by the left-over.

The same thing would hit professional basketball in the United States if all the Cubans, Speakers, Alexanders, Johnsons, Ruths, etc. were over in France, with a job of unknown lot.

But in Montreal and Toronto, the two main baseball cities of Canada, most of the talent is recruited from the States. Very few of these joined the Canadian military forces. So there was no sagging in the game's general standard. The Canadian fan could see just the good baseball through the war as before.

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IT'S EASY TO MISS A SHORT PUTT WHEN ITS SINKING MEANS A NEW FIGURE IN GOLF COURSE RECORDS

Maxwell Had a Two-Footer for New Low-Water Mark at Aronimink, but It Failed to Drop in Hole

THERE are many things on a golf course that come under the heading of mental hazards. Deep chasms and ponds that look the player in the eye from the tee are a part of the common or garden variety of the species, and yet there is one mental obstacle that is overlooked, principally because the average golfer never reaches the stage of the game where he is faced with that Gibraltar of hazards, the short putt on the home green that will set a new record for the course if it rattles in the cup.

Norman H. Maxwell, Quaker City golf sensation, was brought face to face with the big obstacle while playing against Carl Anderson, the New York golf architect, at Aronimink yesterday. Maxwell's sixty-eighth shot stopped within the length of a putter shaft of the eighteenth flag and a gentle little tap in the right direction would have made a new record for the difficult Drexel Hill course. It seemed a certainty that the course mark was due for a reduction; then came the mental hazard and its result.

Jersey Traverser speaks of the mental torture that he experienced in making the last short putt that gave him his first championship ten years ago, at Euclid. The four-time additional national champion said: "I never can see anything but the hole when I dropped in. Now I am not supposed to be afflicted with any great nervousness, but here was a putt that was not at all difficult, but I just could not see the hole because I realized that a championship was so close."

There is something about these vital putts that make them about the hardest thing in the game to negotiate. Maxwell could sink the easy putt that faced him twelve times out of a dozen in practice. Yet his sixty-ninth shot did not land in the bottom of the cup; consequently, there was no new record hung up for the credit of Aronimink. Carl Anderson is probably familiar with the most every shot of any other linkman in the country. His business carries him to the four corners of the country, and at almost every stop he carries the title of half-dozen holes in the Trenton Country Club's eighteen-hole layout. Maxwell says that one of the greatest hazards on the course is the New Jersey Home for the Criminal Insane. The second tee is within a hundred yards of the asylum fence and as the players drive off they are given the heavy razz by the assembled mob of inmates.

HOW TO PLAY GOLF

Charles (Chick) Evans Jr.

THERE is a great deal of argument among players as to the importance of brassy play. The idea is, of course, that since the use of rubber-cored balls gives so much greater distance than was possible in the days when gutta serena balls were used, the green can be reached on the second shot with iron. There is considerable truth in this argument as applied to first-class players, but I believe that the great majority of golfers cannot consistently get the necessary distance to make the green in two without the aid of first-class play. Therefore, I personally feel that no golfer can afford to neglect brassy play. Every club in a golfer's bag has a reason for being there, and brassy play cannot be ignored by a player who aims to be a first-class golfer. Moreover, there is a lot of satisfaction in a good, brassy shot. It is one of the real pleasures of the game.

The principal difference between the brass and the driver lies in the pitch of the face of the club. The face of a driver is almost perpendicular, while the face of a brassy slants backward. This gives the brassy a tendency to lift the ball much more than can be done with a driver. In fact, the pitch of the face gives to a brassy a lifting power just as a too pro gives the same quality in play with the driver.

The swing and grip of the club is the same as in driving, but one must be sure of his grip with a brassy, especially where the club head is certain to come in contact with the ground on a bad lie.

A player must give a lot of attention as to how to hit the ball. If the ball has a fairly good lie the player can be made easily and rhythmically without any attempt to dig under the ball. You can trust the loft in the face of the brassy to pick the ball up properly if the stroke is played rightly.

The most frequent error in brassy play that I have observed is the tendency of the swing and grip of the club is the same as in driving, but one must be sure of his grip with a brassy, especially where the club head is certain to come in contact with the ground on a bad lie.

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SCRAPS ABOUT SCRAPPERS

By LOUIS H. JAFFE

BENNY LEONARD'S detraction of Freddy Welsh may deprive Johnny Kilbane of an opportunity to grasp a second ring championship "until after Germany has been licked." If Leonard's declaration to sign up in Uncle Sam's service, after his match here Monday night with Joe Welsh, is more than a threat, the wonderful Gotham gloveman will have to pass up the last-cuff game until the great war has reached a climax. There is little doubt that Leonard is a remarkable type of an athlete—ruthless, healthy, alert and strong. Benny was born in New York April 1, 1896, which places him just over the twenty-one-year-old mark. He is five feet five inches tall and weighs 133 pounds. Previous to the Leonard-Welsh contest negotiations were for a twenty-round bout between the Briton and Kilbane at New Orleans, and an offer from Canton, O., also was made for the same contest. Had Welsh without Leonard in mind, he would have been a sure thing. It is almost a certainty that the ex-champion and the featherweight wizard would have put the Broad street club's curtain up on the last week in August.

All Nelson and Jack Bratton put on a pleasing display on Monday night they were really a lot better than they got into the street clothes. They are to box the semifinal to the main event on Tuesday night. Tommy Kelly says the bout can be staged here just as soon as Art says the word.

Albert Redmond, the Franco-Swiss, is suffering from an injured hand and as a result, his match with Soldier Hatfield in New York Saturday night is off.

Young Al Siegal, an amateur boxer, is about to enter on a professional career. He is a native of Cleveland and is now in Philadelphia, several of Philadelphia's best boxers are Jersey graduates.

Kid McFarland, who refereed and stopped the Leonard-Welsh bout, was one of the fastest fighters in America and in his time there were many slow ones.

Jack Johnson is "down and out," according to reports. The negro is at Barcelona, Spain, where he is making a last bid at a career. It is said, and he doesn't glitter any more with diamonds.

Larry Williams will have a big advantage in weight when he meets Jack Blackburn at the Philadelphia Memorial Gymnasium. Larry's blonde will have a tough row to travel. Blackburn has been training faithfully for several weeks.

Evening Ledger Decisions

READING—Benny Kaufman won from Baltimore's Joe Tuberville in a ten-round decision. Willie Thompson outboxed Freddy Goodman, and Zepherino Grillo outpointed Eddie Murray.

NEW YORK—Freddy Reese shaded Ray West. Bob McMillen outpointed Louis Stangle. Joe George edged Rufus Cameron, securing a second-round stoppage. Jack Dill drew with George Chib. LENTOWN—Stanley Willis defeated Johnny Kelly. CINCINNATI—Johnny Dundee was given referee's decision over Rocky Kansas, twelve rounds.

Willie Jackson and Johnny Dundee will appear in the next big match in New York. The bout is scheduled for June 10. Dundee's manager, Jack A. Hannon, says Bill will pull down a fat purse of \$50,000. The opponent of Dundee is a young fighter named Tommy Dill, who is a New York native. Dundee's manager says he will be a sure thing.

GERMANTOWN BOYS MEET CANCELED

The annual Germantown Boys' Club track and field games this morning were canceled because of the poor condition of the track. Closed events and several open numbers were on the program.

—AND CLASS? OH, BOY!

There's not a more nifty suit on the streets than the one I make to your measure for \$16.50. BILLY MORAN 1103 ARCH STREET Open Evenings

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Baseball Today, Two Games SHIBE PARK Athletics vs. New York

Morning Game, 10:15. Afternoon Game, 3:00. Tickets on sale at Gimlets and Spalding's.

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Broadway A. C. Thursday Night THE BOUT EVERY ONE WANTS TO SEE Larry Williams vs. Jack Blackburn